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His MAJESTIES Gracious

SPEECH

TO THE

Houſe of Peers,

The 27 of *July*, 1660.

Concerning the ſpeedy Paſſing of the Bill of

Indempnity & Oblivion.

Die Veneris, 27. Julii, 1660.

ORdered by the Lords in PARLIAMENT aſſembled, That *His Majeſties Gracious Speech* be forthwith Printed and Publiſhed.

John Brown Cleric. Parliamentorum.

LONDON,
Printed by *John Bill* and *Chriſtopher Barker*, Printers to the Kings moſt Excellent Majeſty, 1660.

His MAJESTIES Gracious

SPEECH

TO THE

Houſe of Peers,

The 27th of April, 1660.

Concerning the ſpeedy Paſſing of the Bill of

Indemnity & Oblivion.

His MAJESTIES Gracious

SPEECH

TO THE

Houſe of Peers,

The 27 of *July*, 1660.

Concerning the ſpeedy Paſſing of the Bill of

Indempnity & Oblivion.

My Lords,

WHen I came firſt hither to you, which was within two or three days after I came to *Whitehall*, I did with as much earneſtneſs as I could, both by Myſelf and the Chancellor, recommend to you and the Houſe of

Commons, the ſpeedy diſpatch of the Act of *Indempnity*, as a neceſſary Foundation of that Security We all pray for. I did ſince by a particular Meſſage to the Houſe of Commons again preſs them to haſten that important work; and did likewiſe by a Proclamation Publiſh to all the Kingdome, That I did with impatience expect that that Act ſhould be preſented to Me for My Aſſent, as the moſt reaſonable and ſolid Foundation of that Peace, Happineſs, and Security I hope and pray for to My ſelf and all My Dominions. I will not deny it to you, I thought the Houſe of Commons too long about that Work, and therefore, now it is come up to you, I would not have you guilty of the ſame delay. I thank God, I have the ſame Intentions and Reſolutions now I am here with you, which I had at *Breda*, and believe that I ow My being here to Gods bleſſing upon the Intentions and Reſolutions I then expreſſed to have. I will read to you what I then ſaid.

And to the end that the Fear of puniſhment may not engage any, Conſcious to themſelves of what is paſſed, to a perſeverance in Guilt for the

the future, by opposing the Quiet and Happiness of their Countrey in the Restauration both of King, Peers and People, to their Just, Antient and Fundamental Rights: We do by these Presents Declare, That we do grant a Free and General Pardon, which we are ready upon demand to pass under Our Great Seal of England, *to all Our Subjects, of what degree or quality soever, who, within forty days after the publishing hereof, shall lay hold upon this Our Grace and Favor, and shall by any Publique Act declare their doing so; And that they return to the Loyalty and Obedience of good Subjects, (excepting onely such persons as shall hereafter be excepted by Parliament.) Those onely excepted, let all Our loving Subjects, how faulty soever, rely upon the Word of a King, Solemnly given by this present Declaration, That no Crime whatsoever committed against Us or Our Royal Father, before the Publication of this, shall ever rise in Judgement, or be brought in Question against any of them, to the least endammagement of them, either in their Lives, Liberties, or Estates, or (as far forth as lies in Our Power) so much as to the Prejudice of their Reputations, by any Reproach or Term*

of Distinction from the rest of Our best Subjects, We desiring and Ordaining, that henceforward all Notes of Discord, Separation and Difference of Parties be utterly Abolished among all Our Subjects, whom We Invite and Conjure to a perfect Union among themselves under Our Protection, for the Resettlement of Our Iust Rights, and theirs, in a Free Parliament; By which upon the VVord of a King, VVe will be advised.

My Lords, if you do not joyn with me in extinguishing this Fear, which keeps the hearts of men awake, and apprehensive of Safety and Security; You keep Me from performing My Promise, which if I had not made, I am perswadded neither I nor You had been now here; I pray let us not deceive those who brought or permitted Us to come together. I knew well there were some men who could neither forgive themselves, or be forgiven by Us, and I thank you for your *Iustice* towards those, the immediate murtherers of my Father, and *I* will deal truly with you, *I* never thought of excepting any other. *I* pray think well upon what *I* have offered, and the benefit you

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and I have received from that offer, and encourage and oblige all other persons, by not excluding them from the benefit of this Act. This Mercy and Indulgence is the best way to bring them to a true repentance, and to make them more severe to themselves, when they find We are not so to them. It will make them good Subjects to me, and good Friends and Neighbors to you; and We have then all Our end, and you shall find this the securest expedient to prevent future mischief: therefore I do earnestly Desire and Conjure you to depart from all particular Animosities and Revenge, or memory of past Provocations, and that you will pass this Act without other exceptions, then of those who were immediately guilty of that *Murder* of my Father. My Lords, I have told you My opinion, and I hope you will be of the same. If any persons appear of such dangerous and obstinate Principles, that the Peace of the Kingdome cannot be preserved whilest they have liberty in it: some other course may be taken, that they shall not be able to do hurt; and I assure you, there is nothing

can enable them to do ſo much harm, as the deferring the Paſſing this Act.

I hope I need ſay nothing of *Ireland*, and that they alone ſhall not be without the benefit of My Mercy: they have ſhewed much affection to Me abroad, and you will have a care of My honor, and of what I have promiſed to them. I do again Conjure you, that you will uſe all expedition in the diſpatch of this Bill.

Die Veneris, 27. Julii. 1660.

ORdered by the Lords in Parliament aſſembled, That His Majeſties Gracious Speech be forthwith Printed and Publiſhed.

JOHN BROWN *Clerk. Parliamentorum.*

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